

for the use of those who have arrived at some proficiency in the study of geology. From its extreme comprehensiveness, there is scarcely a fact in general geology which is not alluded to in its pages; so that a student who has once acquired a knowledge of the science would be able, by a perusal of this little book, to refresh his memory of what he has learned. Interleaved and furnished with a few additional details and numerical data, it will form an admirable pocket-companion for the young geologist in his excursions.

The appendix contains, besides synopses of lectures, a valuable table of the geological formations occurring in the British Islands.

*A Manual of Zoology for the use of Students, with a general Introduction on the Principles of Zoology.* By HENRY ALLEYNE NICHOLSON, M.D. &c. Small 8vo. Blackwood: Edinburgh and London, 1870.

*Advanced Text-Book of Zoology, for the use of Schools.* By H. ALLEYNE NICHOLSON, M.D. &c. Small 8vo. Blackwood: Edinburgh and London, 1870.

THAT there has long been a great want of a good manual of zoology for the use of Students in this country there can be no doubt. Dr. Nicholson must have felt this in his position as Lecturer on Natural History in the Edinburgh Medical School; and in the first work indicated above he has endeavoured (not unsuccessfully) to supply the deficiency. His treatment of the subject is evidently founded chiefly upon Prof. Huxley's admirable 'Introduction to the Classification of Animals;' and in nearly all points which have been specially touched upon by that great zoologist the author generally follows him implicitly. Thus, as a matter of classification, Dr. Nicholson accepts Huxley's subkingdom of Annuloida in all its details, although, in his introduction, he lays down the principle that agreement in "morphological type" should constitute the foundation of every group, and we should think it rather difficult to demonstrate the existence of any unity of type in the groups referred to the Annuloida. We cannot think that the presence in both classes of a water-vascular system, and the agreement, such as it is, in the mode of development of *Nemertes* among the Scolecida and of the Echinodermata, can be held to furnish the necessary proof of unity of morphological type; and, on the other hand, if we were to admit that *Nemertes* and the Turbellaria (of which, however, *Nemertes* is a very aberrant form) might form a subkingdom with the Echinodermata, we should still be far from regarding the Turbellaria, Trematoda, Cestoda, Nematoda, Acanthocephala, Gordiacea, and Rotifera as constituting together only a single class. The fact is that the class Scolecida, as thus constituted, is, like Cuvier's subkingdom Radiata, really the residuary dusthole for the reception of every thing for which a suitable place cannot be found among the well-defined primary groups of the animal kingdom; and the Echinodermata are unfortunate in being here again associated in a